

Message Text

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S E C R E T STATE 249015 TOSEC 290033

EXDIS/FOR ROGERS ONLY FROM FRANK

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PDEV, EGEN, SF, RH, UK

SUBJECT: HIGHLIGHTS OF TRILATERAL MEETING WITH BOTHA AND
UK OFFICIALS

1. IN OUR MEETING WITH BOTHA AND BRITISH OFFICIALS
THIS AFTERNOON AFTER YOU LEFT, BOTHA CONTINUED TO CONVEY
IN VERY STRONG TERMS THE RHODESIAN GOVERNMENT'S INTENSE
INTEREST IN THE ECONOMIC ASPECTS OF A RHODESIAN SETTLE-
MENT. HE EMPHASIZED THAT THE ECONOMIC PLAN IS A KEY TO
THE POLITICAL CONCESSIONS THE RHODESIANS MAY BE ABLE TO
MAKE AND REGARDED AS THE SIXTH POINT TO BE ADDED TO THE
KISSINGER FIVE-POINT PLAN. ALTHOUGH BOTHA DID NOT SAY SO,
I GOT THE IMPRESSION THAT SMITH WAS DETERMINED TO RAISE
THE ECONOMIC ISSUES AT THE POLITICAL CONFERENCE CHAIRED
BY THE BRITISH.

2. BOTHA EMPHASIZED THE NEED FOR VISIBLE PROGRESS ON THE
ECONOMIC ARRANGEMENTS TO ALLAY RHODESIAN FEARS THAT THEY
HAVE STEPPED INTO A BOOBYTRAP IN WHICH THE ECONOMIC SUPPORT

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PLAN WILL BE PULLED OUT FROM UNDER THEM. BOTHA INDICATED

THAT SPECIFIC DONOR PLEDGES WOULD BE AN IMPORTANT AND HELPFUL SIGN OF PROGRESS. HE ALSO EMPHASIZED HOWEVER THE NEED TO PIN DOWN THE DETAILS OF THE SAFETY NET SCHEME AND THE NEED TO INDICATE THAT DONOR PLEDGES WOULD BE CONDITIONAL UPON THE IMPLEMENTATION OF THE SAFETY NETS.

3. BOTHA'S REACTION TO INVOLVING WORLD BANK STAFF IN THE OPERATIONAL ASPECTS OF THE SUPPORT FUND WAS POSITIVE. HE GAVE AN AD REFERENDUM APPROVAL OF AN APPROACH TO MCNAMARA, BUT WANTED TO CHECK BACK WITH US TOMORROW ON THIS ISSUE.

4. BOTHA PRESENTED US WITH DATA ON PENSIONS, HOUSING, FARMS, AND LIQUID ASSETS BUT NOT ON LIFE INSURANCE. AFTER CONSIDERABLE DISCUSSION OF THESE DATA AND THE NEED FOR FURTHER DATA, WE AGREED THAT WE WOULD SUBMIT TO BOTHA TOMORROW A WRITTEN LIST OF FURTHER QUESTIONS.

5. WE AGREED THAT TOMORROW MORNING WOULD BE DEVOTED TO A DRAFTING OF A REPORT ON MAJOR CONCLUSIONS OF THE DISCUSSIONS AND POSSIBLE PRESS STATEMENTS. WE ARE SCHEDULED TO MEET WITH BOTHA AND THE BRITISH TOMORROW AFTERNOON TO DISCUSS OUR CONCLUSIONS AND A PRESS STATEMENT FOR THE END OF THE DAY.

6. HORMATS TALKED TO JIM LYNN TO GIVE HIM A FEEL FOR PROGRESS IN THE MEETING AND THE KINDS OF NUMBERS ABOUT WHICH WE HAVE BEEN TALKING. HORMATS INDICATED THAT LYNN SEEMED TO BE IN ACCORD. ROBINSON

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